

# INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Course Code: 5702**

Introduction to Early Childhood Education is designed to provide an overview of skills required to enter a career working with young children. Students will develop skills in areas including career paths, developmentally appropriate practices, safe and healthy learning environments, collaborative relationships, and professional employment skills.

**Objectives:**

Students will:

1. explore career options in Early Childhood Education.
2. implement developmentally appropriate practices
3. maintain safe and healthy learning environments.
4. develop collaborative relationships.
5. develop employment seeking skills.

**Credit:**

1

**National Certification:**

First Aid, CPR, ARC Trainer  
American Red Cross  
<http://www.redcross.org/>

**Recommended Grades:**

9-12

**Class Size:**

18-20

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Textbook Information:**

<http://www.mysctextbooks.com/>

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|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>High School Education:</b>   | Childcare workers, family child care provider, recreation aide   |
| <b>Postsecondary Education:</b> | child day care supervisor, special education assistant, preschool teacher, before or after-school program supervisor |
| <b>Postgraduate Education:</b>  | preschool director, kindergarten, elementary, middle, or secondary teacher, child psychologist                       |

## **Standards Review Committee:**

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|--|--|
| Kyra Corley<br>Fort Mill High School           | Eric Jeffcoat<br>Lake Carolina Elementary School         |
| Martha Feight<br>Beaufort High School          | Sheila Littlejohn<br>South Carolina State University     |
| Mary Frances Floyd<br>Sumter High School       | Jane Mann<br>Pendergrass Fairwold School                 |
| Linda Harmon<br>Aiken High School              | Renee Shorter<br>SDE Office of Early Childhood Education |
| Eartha Heyward<br>Benedict College             | Bessie Walker<br>Fort Dorchester High School             |
| Beverly Ingram<br>University of South Carolina |  |

**Field Review:** Sherry Osborne – Trident Technical College

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## **A. Career Paths**

1. Explore career options in Early Childhood.
2. Investigate education and training requirements.
3. Identify essential personality characteristics of a successful early childhood professional (leadership, ethics, and mentoring).

## **B. Developmentally Appropriate Practices**

1. Describe each of the domains of development: physical, emotional, social, cognitive/intellectual, language, self-help, and moral development.
2. Implement developmentally appropriate learning activities that address the domains of development.
3. Identify issues that affect family dynamics to the development of the child.

## **C. Safe and Healthy Learning Environments**

1. Evaluate safe and healthy learning environments.
2. Identify safe and healthy practices according to state and federal regulations.
3. Identify the nutritional needs of children.
4. Describe first aid procedures.

## **D. Collaborative Relationships**

1. Develop verbal, nonverbal, and written communication skills.
2. Demonstrate techniques for maintaining positive relationships.
3. Investigate problem-solving skills.
4. Organize a data bank of community resources.

## **E. Professional Employment Skills**

1. Develop skills and procedures necessary for seeking employment.